

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 21377 230815Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 SAJ-01 DPW-01 EUR-25 DRC-01 /134 W

----- 082430

R 220435Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0253

INFO CINCPAC

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 21377

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

SUBJECT: DELTA HIGHPOINT

REF: CAN THO 0888

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM AMCONSUL CAN THO O R 200700Z
CAN THO'S 0890 DATED DEC 20 IS REPEATED HERE FOR YOUR
ACTION/INFO:

QUOTE

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1. THE LAST 24 HOURS SAW A FURTHER INCREASE IN MILITARY
ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA. MR 4 REPORTED A TOTAL OF 123 VC/NVA
INITIATED INCIDENTS THE NIGHT OF DEC 19-20, TOPPING THE
PREVIOUS 24 HOURS PERIOD'S HIGH OF 88 (REFTEL) AND CONTINUING
THE PRESENT HIGHPOINT INTO ITS SECOD DAY. THE INCIDENTS WERE
MAINLY ATTACKS BY FIRE (75) AND HARASSMENTS (38). THERE WERE
EIGHT GROUND ATTACKS. ALTHOUGH THE MR 4 G-2 TERMED MOST
INCIDENTS INSIGNIFICANT , CASUALTIES WERE ALSO UP MARKEDLY.
GVN LOSSES WERE 51 KILLED (38 THE PRECEDING DAY) AND 200
WOUNDED (92). THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS LOST WAS
NOT AVAILABLE. (THE PREVIOUS DAY'S LOSSES WERE 28) VC/NVA
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 21377 230815Z

FORCES REPORTEDLY SUFFERED 151 KILLED (80 YESTERDAY).

2. ACTIVITY CONTINUED MOST WIDESPREAD IN THE SOUTHERN DELTA (VC MR 3). CHUONG THIEN RECORDED 39 INCIDENTS AND BA XUYEN 28. IN THE NORTHERN DELTA (VC MR 2), DINH TUONG REMAINED THE PRIMARY COMBAT ARENA WITH 27 INCIDENTS.

3. THE MR 4 CHIEF OF STAFF DECEMBER 20 NOTED THE HIGHPOINTS COINCIDENCE WITH VC HOLIDAYS (REFTEL) AND SPECULATED THAT ONE VC AIM MAY BE TO KEEP TROOP MORALE UP. HE GAVE AS ANOTHER POSSIBLE MOTIVE FOR THE HIGHPOINT THE CONTINUING VC INTEREST IN DISTRUPTING THE RICE HARVEST.

LEHMANN

UNQUOTE.

MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: INFILTRATION, GROUND COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: MOPS, VS, VN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005